

REMARKS

This Response is in response to the Office Action mailed on November 14, 2008.
Claims 1-10 are pending.

§102 Rejections:

Claims 1-4 and 8 are rejected as being anticipated by Katayama (US Patent No. 6,272,610). This rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 is directed to a data recording device that records data into a semiconductor memory pack device that includes a plurality of flash memories performing recording operations in parallel that requires, among other features, a file management portion for managing data that is to be recorded into the semiconductor memory pack device as a file. The file management portion sets a data recording unit of data that is to be supplied to the semiconductor memory pack device to a common multiple of a size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories and a data management size of the file management portion.

Katayama does not disclose or suggest these features. The rejection asserts that “it is disclosed in Katayama that a file management portion sets a data recording unit of data and that is to be supplied to the semiconductor memory pack device to a common multiple of a size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories”. However, claim 1 requires the file management portion to set a data recording unit of data to a common multiple of a size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories and a data management size of the file management portion. More explicitly, claim 1 requires (A) a data recording unit of data that is set to a common multiple of (B) a size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories and (C) a data management size of the file management portion. While the rejection takes into account the size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories, nowhere does the rejection or Katayama take into account the data management size of the file management portion as well.

The rejection also asserts that the data recording unit of data of Katayama is 512 or 1024 bytes and the size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality

of flash memories of Katayama is 2048 bytes (4 x 512). However, no matter what the data management size of the file management portion of Katayama is, the size of the data recording unit of Katayama (512 bytes or 1024 bytes) can never be set to a common multiple of the size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories of Katayama (2048 bytes), as 512 or 1024 bytes is smaller than 2048 bytes. In contrast, the example provided in the rejection can be shown to state that the size obtained by adding up the sizes of erase blocks of the plurality of flash memories of Katayama (2048 bytes) is a common multiple of the size of the data recording unit of Katayama (512 bytes or 1024 bytes). For at least these reasons claim 1 is not disclosed by Katayama and should be allowed. Claims 2-4 and 8 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

§103 Rejections:

Claim 5 is rejected as being unpatentable over Katayama in view of Belu (US Patent No. 6,522,268). This rejection is traversed. Claim 5 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons described above. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

Claim 6 is rejected as being unpatentable over Katayama in view of Haneda (JP No. 2000-57038). This rejection is traversed. Claim 6 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons described above. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

Claim 7 is rejected as being unpatentable over Katayama in view of Saeki (US Publication No. 2001/0043803). This rejection is traversed. Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons described above. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

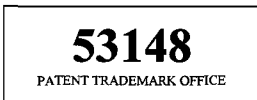
Claims 9 and 10:

The present Office Action requests affirmation that claims 9 and 10 are withdrawn from further consideration by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request

reconsideration of claims 9 and 10 in the present application, as these claims were examined in the May 12, 2008 Office Action and subsequent arguments by the Applicants were entered in the Response filed on August 12, 2008.

Conclusion:


Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455-3804.



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Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902-0902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 455-3800

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
DPM/ahk